



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Presentation to the Senate Finance Committee

---

Department of Family and Protective Services

May 24-25, 2004



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Overview of DFPS

---

*The mission of the Department of  
Family and Protective Services  
is to protect the unprotected.*

# Overview of DFPS

---

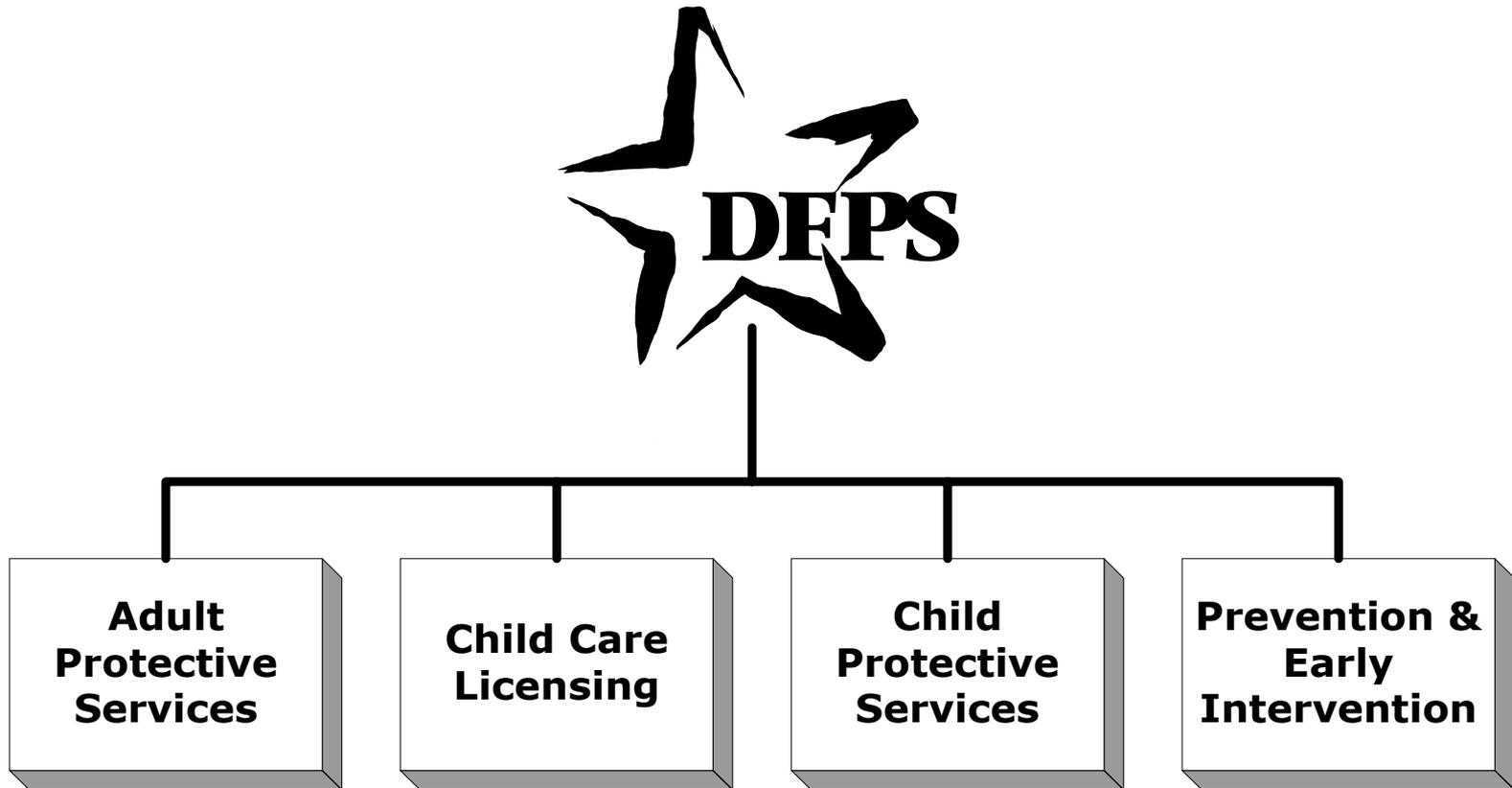
**PRS became the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) on February 1, 2004.**

DFPS maintains the programs of PRS

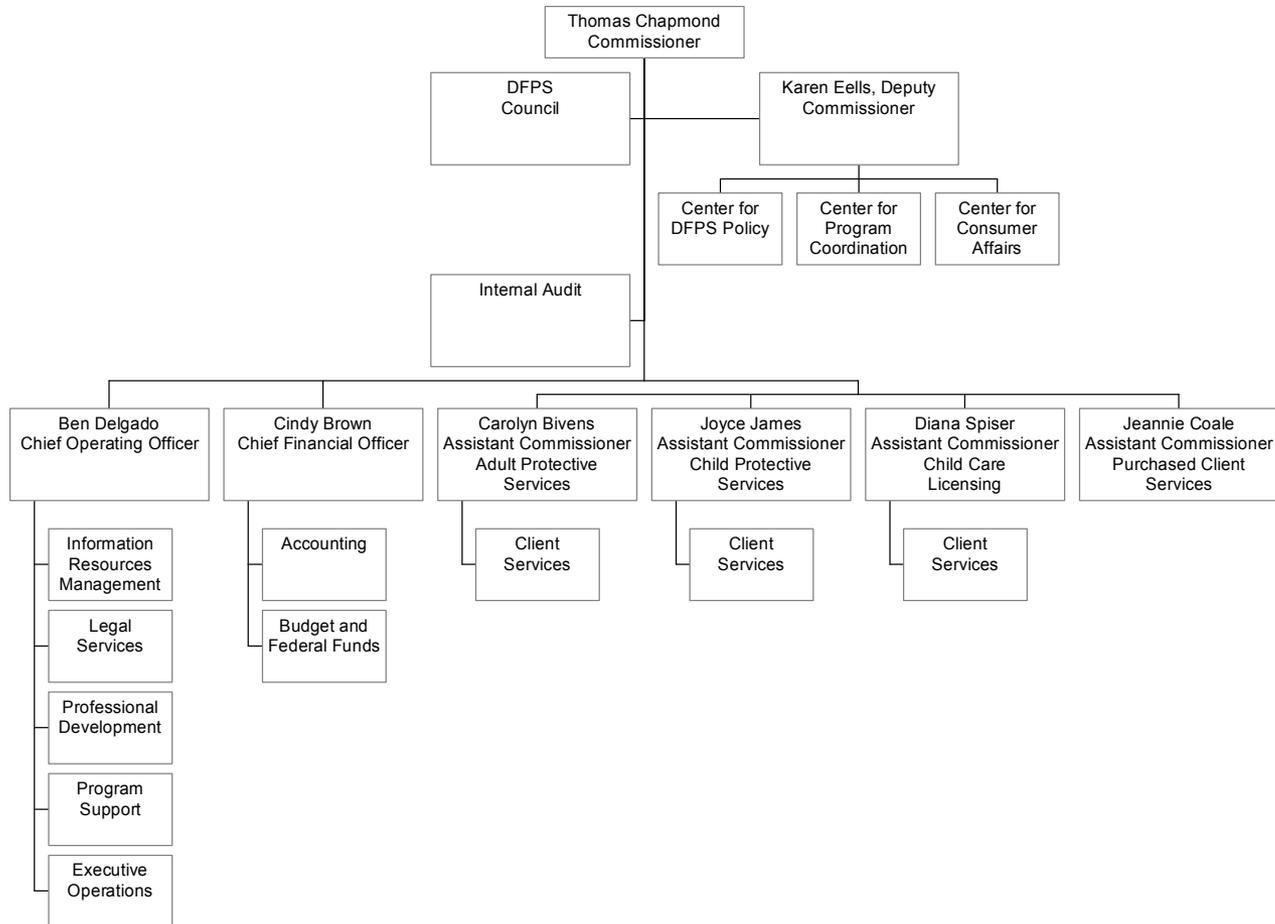
No additional programs transferred to DFPS

# Overview of DFPS

---

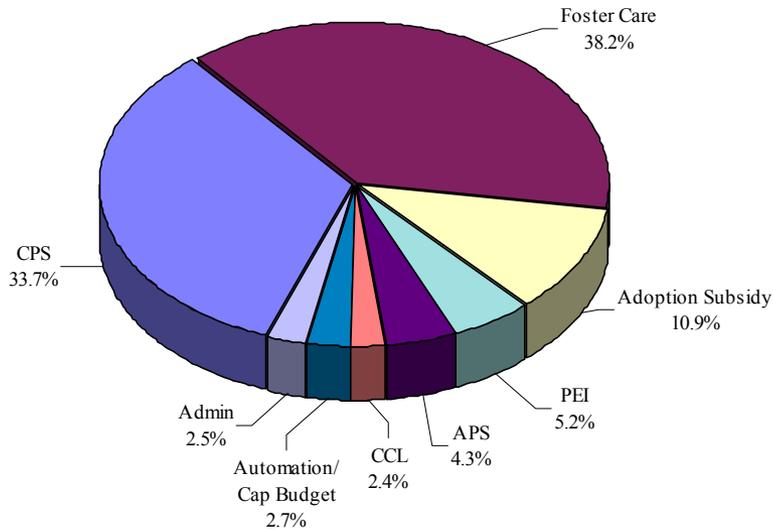


# Overview of DFPS



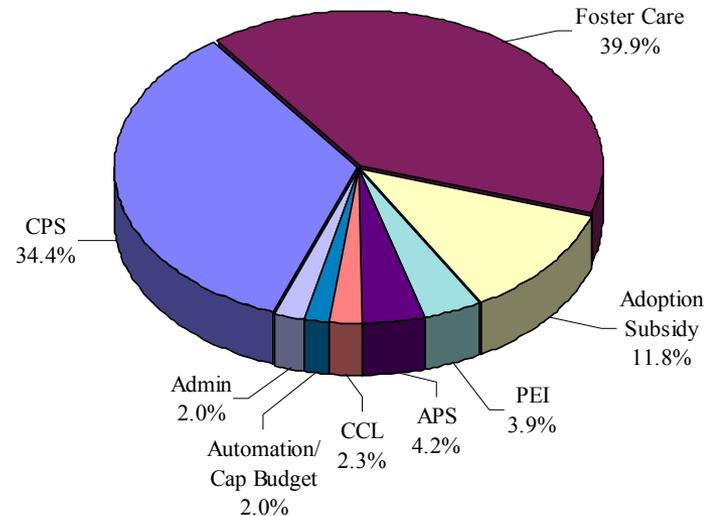
# Overview of DFPS

**FY 2003 - Expended**



Child Protective Services	\$283.9
Foster Care Payments	321.7
Adoption Subsidy Payments	92.1
Prevention & Early Intervention	43.9
Adult Protective Services	36.0
Child Care Licensing	20.6
Automation/Capital Budget	22.7
Indirect Administration	<u>20.8</u>
<b>FY 2003 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$841.7</b>

**FY 2004 - Estimated Expenses**



Child Protective Services	\$290.1
Foster Care Payments	336.7
Adoption Subsidy Payments	99.7
Prevention & Early Intervention	32.5
Adult Protective Services	35.5
Child Care Licensing	19.3
Automation/Capital Budget	12.2
Indirect Administration	<u>17.2</u>
<b>FY 2004 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$843.2</b>



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

## Child Protective Services (CPS)

- Investigates reports of abuse and neglect of children.
- Provides services to children and families in their own homes.
- Contracts with local agencies to provide services.
- Provides foster care and adoption services.
- Contracts for foster care and adoption services.
- Provides independent living services to children aging out of foster care.

# CPS Budget

	<b>FY 2003 Expended</b>	<b>FY 2004 Estimated Expenses</b>
<b>Budget Category</b>		
Salaries	\$ 175.5	\$ 183.0
Travel	13.1	13.3
Overhead	42.1	40.6
Client Services	467.0	489.6
<i>Foster Care</i>	<i>321.7</i>	<i>336.7</i>
<i>Adoption Subsidy</i>	<i>92.1</i>	<i>99.7</i>
<i>Other CPS Purchased Services</i>	<i>53.2</i>	<i>53.2</i>
Capital Budget	2.3	0.1
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 700.0</b>	<b>\$ 726.6</b>
<b>Method of Finance</b>		
General Revenue	\$ 229.0	\$ 240.9
TANF	189.7	189.0
Other Federal	277.0	293.0
Other Funds	4.3	3.7
<b>Total Method of Finance</b>	<b>\$ 700.0</b>	<b>\$ 726.6</b>
<b><i>Number of FTEs</i></b>	<b><i>5,140.3</i></b>	<b><i>5,294.2</i></b>

# CPS Trends

---

- **CPS Investigations**

- The number of CPS completed investigations has been steadily increasing and this trend is projected to continue.
  - 138,092 projected for FY 2004
  - 131,130 actual for FY 2003

- **CPS Caseload per Worker**

- The CPS workload equivalency continues to increase as reports of abuse and neglect and subsequent investigations increase more than staffing levels.
  - 28.8 projected for FY 2004
  - 26.7 actual for FY 2003

# CPS Trends

---

- **Foster Care Payments**

- Foster care caseloads have been increasing steadily, and current forecasts predict continued growth.
  - 15,919 projected for FY 2004
  - 15,008 actual for FY 2003
- Initiatives to reduce the number of children in care.
  - Faith-based recruitment
  - Kinship Care
- Initiatives to move foster children into home-based care.
  - Specialized rate
  - Intense rate

# CPS Trends

---

- **Adoption Subsidy**

- There has been an upward trend in the average monthly number of children provided adoption subsidy payments. Adoption subsidy provides a monthly subsidy and funding for non-recurring adoption expenses for eligible children.
  - 16,779 projected for FY 2004
  - 15,223 actual for FY 2003
- The adoption subsidy represents an average savings over the cost of foster care for an individual child.

# CPS Trends

---

- **Targeted Case Management (TCM)**
  - Since 1994 when the Medicaid State Plan amendment and the cost allocation plan were approved, DFPS has claimed Medicaid for TCM services.
  - On 2/13/04, the federal Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) issued a disallowance of \$45.2 million of TCM claims based on a focused financial review.
  - The disallowance was based on CMS' determination that DFPS' case management services were child welfare activities and should be claimed against Title IV-E and Title IV-B.
  - The State has sent a notice to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Departmental Appeals Board requesting reconsideration of the disallowance.
  - A settlement agreement is likely that will result in no fiscal impact through FY 2005; however, DFPS will be expected to change its claiming methodology which will result in a much smaller TCM program, requiring more general revenue beginning with FY 2006.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Adult Protective Services (APS)

---

- Investigates reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elderly people and people with disabilities living at home or who are receiving MHMR services.
- Provides or arranges for protective services to alleviate or prevent further maltreatment.
  - May include referral to other programs, respite care, guardianship, emergency assistance with food, shelter, and medical care, transportation, counseling, or other remedies.

# APS Budget

	<b>FY 2003 Expended</b>	<b>FY 2004 Estimated Expenses</b>
<b>Budget Category</b>		
Salaries	\$ 26.2	\$ 25.5
Travel	1.7	1.7
Overhead	4.7	4.6
Client Services	3.4	3.7
Capital Budget	0.1	-
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 36.1</b>	<b>\$ 35.5</b>
<b>Method of Finance</b>		
General Revenue	\$ 13.5	\$ 8.7
TANF	-	-
Other Federal	22.6	26.8
Other Funds	-	-
<b>Total Method of Finance</b>	<b>\$ 36.1</b>	<b>\$ 35.5</b>
<b><i>Number of FTEs</i></b>	<b><i>733.4</i></b>	<b><i>703.1</i></b>

# APS Trends

---

- **APS and MHMR Investigations**
  - The number of completed APS investigations is projected to decrease slightly in FY 2004.
    - 60,959 projected for FY 2004
    - 61,342 actual for FY 2003
  - Due to a 25% appropriation reduction for the FY 2004-2005 biennium, several changes to policy were implemented to reduce workload. Subsequently, the number of completed MHMR investigations is projected to decrease.
    - 7,816 projected for FY 2004
    - 9,805 actual for FY 2003

# APS Trends

---

- **APS Guardianship**

- Number of clients receiving guardianship services is projected to increase.
  - 728 projected for FY 2004
  - 706 actual for FY 2003

- **APS Caseload per Worker**

- Average APS in-home caseload per worker is projected to decrease slightly.
  - 39.8 projected for FY 2004
  - 41.5 actual for FY 2003



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Child Care Licensing (CCL)

---

- Develops and enforces minimum standards for child-care facilities and child-placing agencies.
- Investigates complaints and serious incidents occurring at day care and residential-care facilities.
- Licenses day care centers, day care homes, child-placing agencies, and residential child-care facilities.

# CCL Budget

	<b>FY 2003 Expended</b>	<b>FY 2004 Estimated Expenses</b>
<b>Budget Category</b>		
Salaries	\$ 15.8	\$ 14.9
Travel	1.0	1.0
Overhead	3.8	3.4
Capital Budget	3.4	-
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 24.0</b>	<b>\$ 19.3</b>
<b>Method of Finance</b>		
General Revenue	\$ 1.2	\$ 1.0
TANF (Converted to CCDF)	0.5	-
Other Federal	22.3	18.3
Other Funds	-	-
<b>Total Method of Finance</b>	<b>\$ 24.0</b>	<b>\$ 19.3</b>
<b><i>Number of FTEs</i></b>	<b><i>452.2</i></b>	<b><i>415.1</i></b>

# CCL Trends

---

- **CCL Inspections**

- The number of inspections is projected to decrease.
  - 38,536 projected for FY 2004
  - 43,244 actual for FY 2003

- **Background Checks**

- The number of background checks is projected to increase.
  - 302,400 projected for FY 2004
  - 269,156 actual for FY 2003



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

## Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)

- Competitively procures contracts designed to strengthen families and communities by preventing child maltreatment and juvenile delinquency.
- Funds services to children in at-risk situations and for the families of those children.
- Assists communities in identifying prevention and early intervention needs and providing community awareness.

# PEI Budget

	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Estimated Expenses
<b>Budget Category</b>		
Salaries	\$ 2.7	\$ 1.3
Travel	0.1	0.1
Overhead	1.6	0.9
Client Services	39.5	30.2
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 43.9</b>	<b>\$ 32.5</b>
<b>Method of Finance</b>		
General Revenue	\$ 17.2	\$ 13.8
TANF	6.2	-
Other Federal	20.5	18.7
Other Funds	-	-
<b>Total Method of Finance</b>	<b>\$ 43.9</b>	<b>\$ 32.5</b>
<b><i>Number of FTEs</i></b>	<b><i>68.9</i></b>	<b><i>31.7</i></b>

# PEI Trends

---

- The FY 2004-05 appropriation for prevention and early intervention eliminated 7 of the 14 programs and reduced the budgets of 6 programs. Overall, it is estimated that 1,768 families and 14,371 individuals will no longer be served each year of the biennium.
- **Services to At-Risk Youth (STAR)**
  - The average monthly number of STAR youth served is projected to decrease due to a budget reduction. The statewide presence of STAR in all 254 counties has been continued.
    - 5,367 projected for FY 2004
    - 6,119 actual for FY 2003
- **Community Youth Development (CYD)**
  - The average monthly number of CYD youth served is projected to decrease due to a budget reduction.
    - 6,431 projected for FY 2004
    - 7,620 actual for FY 2003



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Other Agency Issues

---

## •CPS Caseworker Turnover

- Turnover among CPS caseworkers has been declining:
  - In FY 2001, turnover was 27.9%
  - In FY 2002, turnover was 25.3%
  - In FY 2003, turnover was 23.5%
  - FY 2004 year-to-date, turnover is 22.9%



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# DFPS Program Detail

---

<b>Children's Protective Services</b>	<b>Page 25</b>
<b>Foster Care Payments</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Adoption Subsidies</b>	<b>Page 38</b>
<b>Adult Protective Services</b>	<b>Page 44</b>
<b>MHMR Investigations</b>	<b>Page 53</b>
<b>Child Care Licensing</b>	<b>Page 59</b>
<b>Prevention and Early Intervention</b>	<b>Page 64</b>
<b>Status Report of Audits</b>	<b>Page 71</b>



# Children's Protective Services

---

Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

## **Program Description:**

The purpose of Child Protective Services (CPS) is to protect children from abuse and neglect and to act in the children's best interest. Statewide intake staff operate a toll-free, statewide telephone reporting system, as well as an internet reporting system, to accept in reports of abuse and neglect. Additionally, there is a secure internet reporting site for professionals such as teachers and medical personnel. All reports that meet the statutory definition of abuse or neglect of children are assigned a priority based on the level of risk and severity of harm to the child and routed to the local CPS office for investigation.

CPS caseworkers conduct an investigation of the abuse/neglect allegations by interviewing the child and parents, other witnesses or professionals and by visiting the home, if appropriate. If the child is able to safely remain in the home, a decision is made to close the case, refer the family to services in the community, or provide family services. Family based safety services are provided by CPS staff or contract providers.

# Children's Protective Services

---

---

## **Program Description continued:**

If the child cannot live safely at home, CPS may petition the court to remove the child from their home and place them in substitute care. When a child is removed from their home they are either placed with relatives, foster family homes, or residential facilities. A service plan is developed with the family to resolve the problem that contributed to the abuse or neglect of the child and the removal. The court decides when to return the child home, name a relative or other person as the managing conservator, appoint the department as the managing conservator or terminating the parent-child relationship in order to place the child in an adoptive home.

If the court does terminate the parent-child relationship, an adoptive home is sought for the child. Adoption services are provided by CPS staff, as well as contracted providers. Post-adoption contracted services are available to adoptive families after the adoption is legally finalized.

## **Who the program serves:**

CPS serves children who are alleged to have been abused or neglected or who have been or are at risk of being abused or neglected, based on the legal definitions of abuse/neglect in the Texas Family Code §261.001. Additionally, CPS serves the parents of these children.

# Children's Protective Services

---

---

## Eligibility Criteria:

The Texas Family Code defines agency authority to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect by parent, caretaker, or person responsible. There are no additional eligibility criteria for investigations. Generally to receive contracted services, children or families must have an open CPS case. In order to receive foster day care services, the child must be under age 6 and placed in a foster home with parents who work full-time.

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	59,557,987	63,005,198	66,726,367	63,826,725	65,168,911	66,999,701
Federal Funds	189,095,119	190,291,405	208,489,835	218,363,171	221,711,247	227,866,151
Other Funds	3,360,209	4,106,219	4,729,133	4,039,543	3,297,204	3,297,204
Total All Funds	252,013,315	257,402,822	279,945,335	286,229,439	290,177,362	298,163,056

# Children's Protective Services

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	4,972.0	4,977.8	5,086.5	5,138.3	5,292.2	5,470.2

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Number of CPS Reports of Child Abuse/Neglect	139,898	142,910	157,544	162,044	170,856	177,683
Number of Completed CPS Investigations	121,732	111,970	125,258	131,130	138,092	143,923
Average Monthly Cost per Open CPS Investigation	\$137.83	\$169.99	\$137.36	\$132.29	\$123.02	\$122.55
Number of Children in State Conservatorship Who Are Adopted	2,063	2,221	2,248	2,444	2,479	2,569

# Children's Protective Services

## Performance Measures continued:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
CPS Workload Equivalency Measure (WEM)	NA	25.0	25.9	26.7	28.8	28.8
Average Caseload Per Intensified Family Preservation/ Reunification Worker	NA	14.2	13.1	13.7	15.2	16.0
Average Number of Clients Receiving CPS Purchased Services	N/A	N/A	10,432	11,348	9,865	9,865
Average Cost per Client Receiving CPS Purchased Services	N/A	N/A	\$259.68	\$245.89	\$273.07	\$273.27

# Children's Protective Services

---

---

## **Issues:**

As the population served by CPS continues to grow, increased resources are needed to meet the needs of our clients. This includes dollars for purchased services, as well as for additional staff.

## **If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

There is no waiting list for CPS direct delivery services. Local waiting lists may exist for specific services such as parenting classes, psychological evaluations and day care. There is no centralized tracking of these local waiting lists.

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

In December 2003, CPS policy was changed to modify permanency goals to reflect the focus on finding permanent families for all children in care. These policy changes enhance staff efforts to ensure children aging out of care have contacts with adults who can support them after their transition from foster care.

# Children's Protective Services

---

---

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload continued:**

Policy changes impacting investigations are currently underway. In April 2004, policy changes were implemented requiring specific steps needed prior to case closure when a family refuses to participate with CPS. Policy, rule and automation changes to the disposition codes used in these circumstances will be implemented September 2004. These changes provide clear direction to staff when working with uncooperative families and families that move or cannot be located. The disposition change will provide the ability to clearly identify such, in order to facilitate timely responses if there is a subsequent referral.

These policy changes impact safety, well-being and permanence of clients rather than the size of the CPS caseload .

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

To meet the permanency needs of the increasing number of children waiting for adoption, an increase in the availability of funding for contracted adoption services is needed. Additionally, as more and more children are adopted there is an increased need for funding for post-adoption services as well.

# Children's Protective Services

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed continued:**

CPS needs resources to maintain manageable caseloads and to develop and retain staff. Currently, CPS investigation staff receives an average of 57.9 investigations per month, per worker. At the same time, workers must provide and arrange for services in ongoing cases to alleviate maltreatment. When caseloads get too large, the volume of work presents a barrier to thorough investigations, assessments and quality casework.

CPS faces a significant challenge in hiring and maintaining a skilled workforce. The availability of workers with specialized social work skills trained to work with abused and neglected children and their families is not keeping pace with the growth in the general population.

DFPS has claimed Medicaid for Targeted Case Management (TCM) services since 1994 when the federal cost allocation plan was approved. The feds have issued a disallowance of \$45.2 million based on a determination that DFPS' case management services were child welfare activities. The State has sent a notice requesting reconsideration. A settlement agreement is likely whereby the state can continue to claim TCM through the end of FY 2005, but would be expected to change its claiming methodology beginning in FY 2006. DFPS' appropriations request for FY 2006-2007 will likely reflect a need for additional general revenue due to a much smaller TCM program in the future.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Foster Care Payments

---

## **Program Description:**

The goal of foster care is to protect children while working with their biological family to alleviate the risk of abuse and neglect. If the family cannot solve the problems that will allow the child to live at home safely, CPS may recommend to the court that the parent-child relationship be terminated and the child placed with other permanent families or caregivers.

## **Who the program serves:**

Children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or a high risk of abuse/neglect that results in the need to remove children from their homes to protect them.

## **Eligibility Criteria:**

There is no additional eligibility criteria.

# Foster Care Payments

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	97,896,189	94,219,163	97,673,599	100,125,274	89,900,529	97,892,816
GR-D Crime Victims Compensation Fund			14,241,354	14,241,354	31,041,354	31,041,354
Federal Funds	132,712,418	151,874,217	186,376,039	207,055,616	215,334,512	229,668,664
Other Funds	259,420	198,162	280,683	279,522	422,428	430,541
Total All Funds	230,868,027	246,291,542	298,571,675	321,701,766	336,698,823	359,033,375

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

# Foster Care Payments

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Average Number of Children (FTE) Served in Paid Foster Care per Month	12,033	12,763	14,072	15,008	15,919	16,982
Average Monthly Payment per Child (FTE) in Paid Foster Care	\$1,563.47	\$1,576.49	\$1,757.12	\$1,765.93	\$1,740.77	\$1,741.27

## Issues:

As the population of children who need protection through foster care services grows, DFPS will continue to need additional resources to maintain program integrity.

### **If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

There is no waiting list for CPS foster care services.

# Foster Care Payments

---

---

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

As directed by HB 1, Rider 21, passed during the 78th Legislative Session, the six levels of care were consolidated to four service levels. The service levels focus on permanency and the services needed by children instead of the behaviors exhibited by children. Consolidation of service levels was not intended to impact caseloads, nor did it impact the caseload of individual workers.

CPS strengthened efforts in policy and practice to place children in families instead of in nursing homes, institutions for the mentally retarded, and residential facilities. There was no impact on caseloads. However, the positive impact on individual children has been tremendous because of the change from an institutional setting to a family setting.

A family group conferencing program is being developed statewide in an effort to reduce the number of children coming into foster care, and to return home more quickly children currently in foster care.

# Foster Care Payments

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

The number of children in foster care has continued to increase. To meet the needs of these children, a faith-based recruitment initiative, established by HB 1, Rider 24, is expected to increase the availability of foster parents.

A kinship care pilot has been initiated to locate, stabilize and support relative placements as an alternative to foster care. If the pilot proves successful in reducing foster care expenditures, expansion of the pilot statewide could be considered.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Adoption Subsidies

---

## **Program Description:**

Adoption subsidies are intended to reduce barriers to adoption of children with special needs. Adoption subsidies consist of reimbursement of certain non-recurring adoption expenses (legal fees and costs of home studies when incurred) and monthly financial assistance when needed and Medicaid coverage.

## **Who the program serves:**

Eligible children in foster care who are free for adoption.

## **Eligibility Criteria:**

To qualify for adoption subsidy the child must be special needs at the time of adoptive placement. The states are required to define “special needs” and Texas definitions are defined in the Texas Administrative Code.

# Adoption Subsidies

---

## **Eligibility Criteria continued:**

To be classified as having special needs, the child must:

- Be six years of age or older;
- Be two years of age or older and a member of a minority group that traditionally is a barrier to adoption;
- Be a member of a sibling group being placed together or joining a sibling; or
- Have a diagnosed handicapping condition.

In addition to the above requirement, the child must meet certain categorical requirements such as qualifying for the AFDC or SSI programs.

# Adoption Subsidies

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	31,791,623	38,441,133	45,490,100	50,910,015	54,807,209	56,997,423
Federal Funds	28,197,352	33,119,189	37,745,894	41,148,671	44,867,549	47,709,418
Total All Funds	59,988,975	71,560,322	83,235,994	92,058,686	99,674,758	104,706,841

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

# Adoption Subsidies

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Average Number of Children Provided Adoption Subsidy per Month	10,758	12,224	13,738	15,223	16,779	18,392
Average Monthly Payment per Adoption Subsidy	\$450.07	\$473.04	\$491.52	\$491.47	\$482.17	\$474.25

## Issues:

Children whose service needs are greater than basic are less likely to achieve permanency through adoption.

**If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

There is no waiting list for adoption subsidies.

# Adoption Subsidies

---

---

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

In September 2003, a tiered payment schedule was established for the adoption subsidy, as directed by HB 1, Rider 26, 78th Legislative Session. A two-tiered payment rate ceiling was implemented which allows the department to provide additional assistance to children whose service needs are moderate or higher at the time of adoptive placement.

The current two-tiered payment ceilings do not adequately support placement of children with moderate to specialized needs. DFPS is proposing to increase the payment ceiling for children with moderate needs from \$545 per month to \$700 per month and add a third tier for children with specialized needs at \$900 per month. Payment ceilings that are more consistent with the child's needs are expected to facilitate the adoption of more children with higher need levels. Placement of these children will reduce foster care costs as well as achieve permanency for these children.

# Adoption Subsidies

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

Under current rules, adoption assistance is provided until the child reaches age 18. Some children have disabilities that prevent them from becoming self-sufficient at age 18 or they are still in high school and remain dependent on their adoptive parents. The Texas Family Code was amended during the 77th Legislative Session to allow the department to continue adoption assistance in these two circumstances.

Implementation of this initiative and the movement from a two-tiered to a three-tiered payment ceiling is expected to increase adoption of children with special needs. As these adoptions increase, the cost of adoption subsidies increase, and additional funding will be needed to address this growth. However, since the average cost of an adoption subsidy is less than the average cost of foster care, there is an economic benefit to the State when adoptions of children with special needs increase.

Because of this relationship between foster care and adoption subsidies, having additional flexibility to move funds between the two strategies could potentially be cost effective.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Adult Protective Services

---

## **Program Description:**

Two program areas serve APS clients: in-home investigations/services and guardianship services.

In-home staff investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. If mistreatment is confirmed, staff may arrange for services to their clients through other state and community agencies and access contracted short-term purchased services including emergency shelter, food and medication, heavy cleaning, minor home repairs, restoration of utilities, and mental health assessments. Clients who have the cognitive ability to consent have the right to refuse services. When clients lack capacity and are at risk, APS may pursue legal action to provide involuntary services.

Guardianship staff may be appointed by a court to serve as guardian for incapacitated elders or persons with disabilities who are victims of abuse, neglect, or exploitation and incapacitated children who have severe disabilities when they are aging out of Child Protective Services' care. APS guardianship may be provided directly or through contracts with local entities.

# Adult Protective Services

---

---

## **Program Description continued:**

APS serves as guardian of the last resort when no family member, interested party, or other community alternative is available. Guardianship services may include managing a ward's estate, living arrangements, medical treatment, funeral arrangements and disposal of property.

## **Who the program serves:**

Alleged victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation who are elderly persons or adults with disabilities who reside in their own homes, room-and-board homes not subject to licensure, or adult foster care homes with three or fewer residents.

## **Eligibility Criteria:**

1. 65 years of age or older, or
2. Have a mental, physical, or developmental disability that substantially impairs the person's ability to provide adequately for the person's care or protection and be:
  - (a) 18 years of age or older, or
  - (b) under 18 years of age legally emancipated

# Adult Protective Services

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	2,607,761	1,595,401	8,151,361	9,887,045	6,316,329	6,316,329
GR-D Crime Victims Compensation Fund			1,741,355	1,741,354	1,741,355	1,741,355
Federal Funds	25,081,808	26,152,802	20,376,897	18,599,939	22,536,211	22,536,211
Other Funds	83,222	44,140	35,852	30,000	30,000	30,000
Total All Funds	27,772,791	27,792,343	30,305,465	30,258,338	30,623,895	30,623,895

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	585.2	581.8	594.8	598.8	601.3	601.3

# Adult Protective Services

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Number of APS Reports of Adult Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation	55,197	58,639	60,785	63,557	63,160	64,848
Number of Completed APS Investigations	51,479	56,170	56,906	61,342	60,959	62,588
Average Monthly Cost per APS Investigation	\$152.82	\$135.01	\$135.29	\$124.66	\$103.05	\$99.81
Number of APS Clients Receiving Guardianship Services	605	624	671	706	728	753
Average APS Caseload Per Worker	31.7	40.2	37.2	41.5	39.8	40.9

# Adult Protective Services

---

---

## **Issues:**

APS faces a significant challenge in hiring and maintaining a skilled workforce. The availability of workers with specialized geriatric and social work training is not keeping pace with the ever-increasing number of older Americans. APS efforts to build a skilled pool of staff include offering internal and external training, an annual conference, and certification of workers and supervisors. However, the great demand for geriatric social workers often results in highly trained APS workers leaving their jobs for positions with higher pay. Attracting and keeping skilled APS workers is further compounded by the decrease in benefits and increasing caseloads.

Attention has been recently focused on the appropriateness of APS intervention in situations involving persons whose living conditions pose health and safety hazards. The Governor has directed HHSC to undertake a comprehensive review of the APS program. APS will need to be responsive to the direction of HHSC in adjusting policy, training, and organizational structure based upon the outcome of this review. Changes to state statute may also be recommended.

# Adult Protective Services

---

---

## **Issues continued:**

DFPS's statutory mandate and funding is limited in scope to guardianship of incapacitated adult victims of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation and children aging out of CPS conservatorship. However, courts and other entities are increasingly seeking to appoint DFPS in cases outside its statutory mandate when no other alternatives exist, guardianship will not resolve the problem, or the person is not at risk. This could result in victims of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation being denied adequate services because DFPS staff are overwhelmed with other types of appointments. DFPS has attempted to limit the scope of its guardianship program by educating courts as to its statutory mandate, developing policy, collaborating with the Guardianship Advisory Board, and appealing appointments in some cases.

## **If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

APS does not have a waiting list. Investigations are assigned a priority that determines how quickly APS staff will make an initial face-to-face visit with the client.

# Adult Protective Services

---

---

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

In August 2003, APS implemented a policy requiring caseworkers to document validated allegations that an elderly person or an adult with a disability is a victim of family violence. The policy requires caseworkers to provide victims with written information about community resources and develop a family violence safety plan to promote the safety of the victim. This policy improves the level of service provided to clients, but it also increases the length of time a case is open for investigation.

In March 2004, APS amended a policy concerning the use of cameras during investigations. The new policy requires photographs in all cases of alleged abuse or neglect resulting in injuries, and suggests that photographs be taken in other situations to document physical condition, incident scene, and living environment. While it is preferable for photographs to be taken on every home visit, the limited availability of cameras does not permit this.

In April 2004, APS implemented more stringent prior approval policies for the use of purchased services. This was done to more closely monitor the limited funds available to assist clients on a short-term basis.

# Adult Protective Services

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

As the population of elder adults continues to grow, increased resources are needed to meet the needs of our clients. This includes dollars for emergency services as well as additional staff.

APS recommends funding for the extension of foster care payments for medically fragile youth who are aging out of CPS' care and entering APS guardianship. There is a gap in services for this age group because foster care eligibility ends when a youth in CPS custody reaches 20 years of age. Most community residential programs do not serve persons under the age of 21, so there are limited programs to meet the needs of these medically fragile young adults from 20-21 years of age. An extension of service will allow a youth to remain in foster care placements until they can qualify for Community Based Alternatives (CBA) or another community-based settings for adults.

Reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of undocumented immigrants are increasing. These individuals are eligible for APS investigation and short-term emergency services. However, as non-citizens, they do not qualify for Medicaid benefits. Due to their age and disability, they are not likely candidates for deportation to their country of origin. APS has no resources to address their financial, medical, and placement needs in this country.

# Adult Protective Services

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed continued:**

In response to Governor Rick Perry's executive order on April 14, 2004, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) began conducting a detailed review of the APS program, with a focus on training procedures, minimum qualifications for caseworkers and supervisors, and the effective application of all state statutes and policy requirements to protect the safety and well being of older adults and persons with disabilities. HHSC will also ensure the appropriate placement of state resources and program supervisors for proper and sufficient regional oversight and communication in the APS program.

HHSC will develop and submit an implementation plan to the Governor within 90 days to outline the specific actions taken to implement this order. A final report will be submitted no later than November 1, 2004, to review all actions taken and recommended statutory changes developed in compliance with the order.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# MHMR Investigations

---

## **Program Description:**

DFPS' MHMR Investigators investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of adults and children receiving services in MHMR facilities and related programs. APS conducts an investigation when the alleged perpetrator is an employee, agent, or contractor in one of these programs. MHMR investigators provide investigation reports to MHMR for action as appropriate.

## **Who the program serves:**

Alleged victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation who are clients in Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR) facilities and related programs, including state schools, state hospitals, state centers, community MHMR centers, and home and community-based waiver program.

# MHMR Investigations

## Eligibility Criteria:

An adult with a disability or a child receiving services in a MHMR facility, community center, or home and community-based waiver program.

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	451,822	286,102	1,137,072	1,878,798	679,613	679,613
Federal Funds	4,383,695	4,455,094	4,329,050	4,018,135	4,179,002	4,179,002
Total All Funds	4,835,517	4,741,196	5,466,122	5,896,933	4,858,615	4,858,615

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	121.4	119.9	127.2	134.6	101.8	101.8

# MHMR Investigations

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Number of MHMR Reports of Abuse/ Neglect/Exploitation	8,372	8,319	9,627	10,154	8,094	8,466
Number of Completed MHMR Investigations	6,493	5,615	9,194	9,805	7,816	8,175
Average Monthly Cost per MHMR Investigation	\$441.02	\$491.78	\$432.20	\$443.63	\$418.63	\$400.33
Average MHMR Caseload Per Worker	8.1	7.7	8.6	9.2	9.4	9.8

# MHMR Investigations

---

## **Issues:**

As a result of the reorganization of the health and human services agencies, MHMR programs for which APS has investigative responsibility will be divided between two state agencies. State mental health services will be transferred to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), while state mental retardation services will be transferred to the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). At a minimum, these changes will require revisions to existing rules, handbooks, and operating procedures. APS will need to closely monitor the process in order to respond to any additional implications for its investigations.

The Texas Home Living waiver program became effective in April, 2004. The initial phase of this new program will refinance services clients are already receiving through community MHMR centers and is not expected to increase the MHMR investigations client base. However, the second phase of the program is expected to increase the client base, but currently there are no projections available on the magnitude of the increase or the impact on MHMR investigations workload.

# MHMR Investigations

---

---

## **If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

APS does not have a waiting list. Investigations are assigned a priority that determines how quickly APS staff will make an initial face-to-face visit with the client.

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

In January 2004, the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 711 was amended in an effort to reduce the workloads of APS staff handling the MHMR investigations. These changes were implemented following the legislatively mandated 25% staff reduction. One change in the TAC involved amending the definition of emotional/verbal abuse so that allegations must involve “observable distress or harm.” APS also implemented changes to the priority system for investigations. Previously, priorities were assigned based on the length of time since the alleged incident. The new priority system takes into consideration the seriousness of the allegation and the likelihood that evidence will be lost without a quick initiation.

# MHMR Investigations

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

As a result of staff reductions, APS is closely monitoring caseloads to ensure that the rule and policy changes implemented earlier this year provide the necessary relief to maintain the quality of MHMR investigations. DSHS and DADS management staff are dependent upon these investigations to take appropriate personnel action against perpetrators of abuse, neglect, and exploitation in the mental health and mental retardation programs they operate.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Child Care Licensing

---

## **Program Description:**

The purpose of the Child Care Licensing program is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of children, ages birth through 17 years of age, who attend or reside in regulated child-care facilities and homes. Chapter 42 of the Human Resources Code gives DFPS the authority to establish statewide rules and minimum standards used in regulating both day care and residential child-care operations, which include but are not limited to day care centers, foster homes, and residential treatment centers.

The Child Care Licensing Program also provides technical assistance and training to child-care operators to assist and encourage the improvement of child-care programs; and, provides information to parents and consumers to educate and assist them in making informed decisions about child-care services.

# Child Care Licensing

---

---

## Who the program serves:

Child Care Licensing regulates privately owned child-care operations who may determine which client population they want to serve, such as day care services for infants or after school care for school age children, 24 hour care for medically fragile children, or therapeutic foster care. DFPS determines whether each child-care operation complies with minimum standards that address the needs of the population the operation chooses to serve.

## Eligibility Criteria:

There is no additional eligibility criteria.

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	2,094,363	3,213,003	1,854,833	1,237,156	1,058,134	1,058,134
Federal Funds	16,635,744	21,426,735	21,009,069	22,752,228	18,268,086	18,268,086
Total All Funds	18,730,107	24,639,738	22,863,902	23,989,384	19,326,220	19,326,220

# Child Care Licensing

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	423.2	423.4	436.3	452.2	415.1	415.1

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Number of Inspections	40,396	39,850	42,471	43,244	38,536	38,536
Average Cost per Inspection	\$205.48	\$206.87	\$222.05	\$225.98	\$229.93	\$228.34
Number of Licenses, Certifications, Registrations and Listings	35,199	33,105	33,756	34,022	33,366	33,366
Number of New Licenses, Cert., Registrations and Listings Issued	4,275	4,366	4,897	4,862	4,407	4,407
Average Cost per Issuance	\$806.53	\$778.57	\$769.38	\$847.41	\$696.01	\$691.18

# Child Care Licensing

---

---

## **Issues:**

Child Care Licensing has the authority to inspect child-care operations more often than currently required by policy; however, limited agency resources prohibit this. Broadening the law or interpretations of the law always impacts the division's ability to inspect, enforce and investigate in a timely and thorough manner. For example, a recent change in the law broadened the definition of what constitutes abuse/neglect in child-care operations. This change resulted in broadening the scope and priority of abuse/neglect investigations, without additional resources to support this.

## **If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

There is not a waiting list.

## **Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

Minimum standards rules for Residential Child Care Licensing (RCCL) are currently undergoing revision. Once new rules have been adopted, implementation procedures will begin. This includes a review and update of all existing licensing and CPS policies and procedures to ensure they do not conflict with these new regulations, preparation of training materials, training RCCL and CPS staff and permit holders, and addressing consistency of enforcement issues as they arise.

# Child Care Licensing

---

---

## **Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

A mobile automation solution for Licensing would address the current delay of approximately 10 – 15 days before a provider receives in writing the finding of the inspection. The provider has 15 days from the date of receipt of the notification to request an administrative review. If a review is requested, there is a time period allowed for the review to take place. All of this results in the public not being timely informed of the compliance history through the Child Care Licensing website.

Child Care Licensing conducts a minimum number of background checks to protect children in care; however, additional resources would allow follow-up of matches to be expedited and additional checks to be conducted.



# Prevention and Early Intervention

---

Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

## **Program Description:**

The Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Division was created to consolidate prevention and early intervention programs within the jurisdiction of a single state agency. Consolidation of these programs is intended to eliminate fragmentation and duplication of services for at-risk children, youth, and families. PEI programs are designed to prevent child abuse and neglect, truancy, running away, and delinquency by providing services that reduce risk factors for families and children and increase protective factors within communities. Competitively procured contractors deliver PEI program services.

## **Who the program serves:**

*Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Grant.* The CBCAP program increases community awareness of existing prevention services, strengthens community and parental involvement in child abuse prevention efforts, and encourages families to engage in services that are already available. Projects supported by CBCAP are located in Bexar, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Galveston, Jefferson, Harris, Midland, Potter, Randall, Tarrant, Taylor, Tom Green, Travis, and Webb counties.

# Prevention and Early Intervention

---

---

## **Who the program serves continued:**

*Dan Kubiak Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Program.* The Buffalo Soldiers program operates in three counties: Bexar, Tarrant, and Dallas. Service components include mentoring, tutoring, Buffalo Soldier history classes, character development, self-esteem building, life skills training, field trips to state parks, encampments, and community service activities.

*Services To At-Risk Youth (STAR) Program.* STAR services are provided to youth under the age of 18 who are runaways, truants, and/or living in family conflict, youth who are age 9 and younger who have allegedly been involved in or committed delinquent offenses, and 10 to 16 year olds who have allegedly committed misdemeanor or state jail felony offenses but have not been adjudicated delinquent by a court. Services must include family crisis intervention counseling, short-term emergency residential care, individual and family counseling. In addition, STAR providers dedicate at least 10% of their contract funds to providing child abuse prevention services within their service areas, including elements such as media campaigns, parenting classes, and other awareness activities. STAR services are available all 254 Texas counties.

# Prevention and Early Intervention

---

---

## **Who the program serves continued:**

*Tertiary and Secondary Child Abuse Prevention.* This program provides community-based, volunteer-driven services for prevention, intervention and aftercare services for the families of children who have been abused or neglected, or who are at risk of child maltreatment. Communities supported by these services are located in Andrews, Brazos, Ector, Midland, Ward, and Winkler counties.

*Texas Runaway and Youth Hotlines.* Hotline staff and volunteers provide statewide 24-hour crisis intervention and telephone counseling; information and referrals to callers in need of food, shelter, or transportation to their homes; conference calls to parents and shelters; a confidential message relay service between runaways and parents.

*Texas Families: Together and Safe (TFTS) Program.* TFTS provides family support services designed to alleviate stress, promote parental competencies, and increase the ability of families to successfully nurture their children. Services are provided through community-based agencies. The program is available in Bexar, Brazos, Brown, Burleson, Cameron, Coleman, Coke, Comanche, Crosby, Eastland, El Paso, Grimes, Harris, Hidalgo, Irion, Lamb, Leon, Lubbock, Madison, Maverick, McCulloch, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Starr, Sterling, Tarrant, Tom Green, Travis, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, and Washington.

# Prevention and Early Intervention

---

---

## **Who the program serves continued:**

*Community Youth Development (CYD) Program.* CYD provides community-based delinquency prevention services in 15 areas of the state known to have high incidence of juvenile crime. The program is ZIP code based and is currently available in Amarillo (79107), Austin (78744), Brownsville (78520), Corpus Christi (78415), Dallas (75216, 75217), El Paso (79924), Fort Worth (76106), Galveston (77550), Houston (77081), McAllen (78501), San Antonio (78207), Waco (76707), Lubbock (79415), and Pasadena (77506). Youth leadership development, community service programs, life skills development, character education, conflict resolution, recreation, sports and fitness, enrichment, education, employment, mentoring, and family support are examples of approaches used by communities to support positive youth development and prevent juvenile crime.

## **Eligibility Criteria:**

See above.

# Prevention and Early Intervention

## Appropriations:

	FY 2000 Expended	FY 2001 Expended	FY 2002 Expended	FY 2003 Expended	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
General Revenue	21,723,573	23,560,516	18,303,397	15,764,977	10,540,399	10,540,399
GR-D Child Abuse/ Neglect Prevention Operating Account	1,744,884	1,589,013	1,562,023	1,403,853	3,297,500	3,297,500
Federal Funds	18,203,595	19,754,298	25,009,296	26,725,819	18,684,822	18,684,822
Other Funds	201,780	228,249	17,111	26,163		
Total All Funds	41,873,832	45,132,076	44,891,827	43,920,812	32,522,721	32,522,721

## FTEs:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
	62.4	72.1	70.5	68.9	31.7	31.7

# Prevention and Early Intervention

## Performance Measures:

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Projected	FY 2005 Budgeted
Average Number of STAR Youth Served per Month	5,145	6,129	6,367	6,119	5,367	5,367
Average Monthly DFPS Cost Per STAR Youth Served	\$307.90	\$265.25	\$261.66	\$272.81	\$288.52	\$288.52
Average Number of CYD Youth Served Per Month	4,420	5,443	6,300	7,620	6,431	6,431
Average Monthly DFPS Cost Per CYD Youth Served	\$91.99	\$82.26	\$89.38	\$76.24	\$91.56	\$91.56

## Issues:

The FY 2004-05 appropriation for prevention and early intervention eliminated 7 of the 14 programs and reduced the budgets of 6 programs. Overall, it is estimated that 1,768 families and 14,371 individuals will no longer be served each year of the biennium.

# Prevention and Early Intervention

---

---

**If there is a waiting list, how many clients are there?**

There is not a waiting list for any PEI program.

**Policy Changes and Impact on Caseload:**

No policy changes are planned that will impact caseload.

**Future Needs that Should Be Addressed:**

It is recommended that funding be restored for the existing programs and for the eliminated programs.



Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner

# Status Report of Audits

---

## •KPMG Federal Portion of SAO Statewide Single Audit for Fiscal Year Ending 8/31/03

### **Purpose of Audit:**

To obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards of the State of Texas for the year ended August 31, 2003 is free of material misstatement. To determine compliance with requirements applicable to major federal programs and on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

### **Status of Major Findings:**

Finding – The agency does not have the appropriate information technology controls in place to ensure the cash management (i.e., pre-issuance) funding from the Federal programs will be paid out within three days after the receipt of Federal Funds.

Status – DPFS was unable to use the Grant Draw Down Supplemental Report developed by the Statewide ISAS Team, and did not attempt to modify this report in FY 2003 due to implementing the Health and Human Service Administrative System. DPFS has now created a version of the HHSAS Grant Draw Down Supplemental Report to resolve the issue, and this report was placed in production on March 12, 2004.

# Status Report of Audits

---

---

## Status of Major Findings continued:

Finding – DFPS could not provide documentation in 3 of 40 adoption assistance cases reviewed that safety considerations with respect to the caretaker(s) have been addressed.

Status – The agency is in the process of modifying forms to require that the criminal history check be a required attachment to Form 2251A, Documentation of Eligibility. The earliest revision date will be May or June 2004.

Finding – From a sample of 30 children for whom Foster Care, Title IV-E payments were made during FY 2003, the following types of non-compliance were noted with foster care providers: criminal background checks overdue, requests for background checks not submitted within 2 days of employment, required 24-month follow-up background checks overdue, background checks were missing on employees of foster care providers and employees of foster care providers had misspelled names on their background checks.

Status – All identified deficient criminal background checks have been corrected and the required documentation has been submitted. All Residential Licensing Representatives and Supervisors were re-trained on law/policy and procedures for ensuring that background checks are monitored at each inspection for all newly hired staff and every 24 months for current staff. This training was conducted on March 30, 2004. Quality assurance provided through case reading, case review, standardized forms, management reports and supervisory monitoring are fully implemented.

# Status Report of Audits

---

---

## •SAO Audit #03-046 “A Review of New Foster Care and Adoption Subsidy Rates Proposed by the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services”

### **Purpose of Audit:**

To review the proposed 2004-2005 biennium foster care and adoption subsidy rates for the purposes of determining whether: 1) The rates were calculated in compliance with Texas Administrative Code, 2) The cost projections made by the Department upon implementation of the rates are reasonable, 3) The cost projections are within appropriated funds.

### **Status of Major Findings:**

The overall conclusion of the audit was that the agency calculated rates in compliance with Texas Administrative Code, and that the cost projections were reasonable and were within appropriated funds. SAO also concluded that the agency complied with Rider 18 of the 2004-2005 General Appropriations Act specifying rate analysis and reporting requirements prior to increasing foster care rates or adoption subsidy rates. There were no formal findings in the Report.

# Status Report of Audits

---

---

## •SAO Audit “Financial Review of Family and Protective Services”

### **Purpose of Audit:**

To determine whether DFPS provides key oversight entities and department management with accurate and consistent financial information. To determine whether the Department is using state appropriations in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations. To determine if the resources used have been in alignment with stated outcomes. To determine if the budget process adequately reflects DFPS service levels and needs.

### **Status of Major Findings:**

This audit is currently in process, with expected completion in July 2004.

# Status Report of Audits

---

---

## •Comptroller's Post Payment Audit for FY 2003

### **Purpose of Audit:**

The Comptroller performs an annual risk assessment and enters into a written contract with selected state agencies authorizing the Comptroller to audit the agency's expenditures on a post-payment basis.

### **Status of Major Findings:**

This audit is currently in process.